

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 652)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 + 6x + 11 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(6) \pm \sqrt{(6)^2 - 4(1)(11)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(6) \pm \sqrt{36 - 44}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-8}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-4 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm \sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $8 - 7i$ and $-2 - 6i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (8 - 7i) \cdot (-2 - 6i) \\ & -16 - 48i + 14i + 42i^2 \\ & -16 - 48i + 14i - 42 \\ & -16 - 42 - 48i + 14i \\ & -58 - 34i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 - 12x + 36$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 2)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & -5 & -12 & 36 \\ 2 & & 2 & -6 & -36 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & -18 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 2)(x^2 - 3x - 18)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 2)(x + 3)(x - 6)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 2)^2 \cdot (x - 1)^2 \cdot (x - 4)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

